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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,843	03/26/2004	Hiroki Yoshida	018775-900	8156
21839 7590 07/18/2007 BUCHANAN, INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC POST OFFICE BOX 1404 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1404			EXAMINER COUSO, JOSE L	
			ART UNIT 2624	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/809,843	Applicant(s) YOSHIDA, HIROKI	
	Examiner Jose L. Couso	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/26/04, 10/31/05, 2/29/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fall et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,515).

With regard to claims 1 and 7, Fall describes a method and computer system (see figure 1) which provides for sectionalizing the document image on the basis of attributes associated with a compression mode to form a plurality of image areas each having an attribute associated with the compression mode (see figures 2d and 4d, and refer for example to column 13, line 50 through column 14, line 53); determining whether the image areas partly or fully overlap with one another to form an overlap area (see figure 4d and refer for example to column 15, lines 31-55); separating the overlap area from the overlapping image areas if the overlap area has been formed, and newly setting an attribute associated with the compression mode for the overlap area according to priorities of the respective attributes of the overlapping image areas, and the positional relationship between the overlap area and each of the overlapping areas (see figures 4e and 4f, and refer for example to column 22, line 17 through column 24, line 54); and compressing each of the image areas and the overlap area using a compression technique corresponding to the attribute of the respective area (see figure 8 and refer for example to column 24 line 55 through column 25, line 62).

As to claims 2, 5, 8 and 11, Fall describes wherein in the separating step, if one of the overlapping image areas is included within the other overlapping image areas, the attribute for the overlap area is set according to an inclusive relationship among the overlapping image areas (see figure 8, element 196 and refer for example to column 26, lines 29-36).

In regard to claims 3, 6, 9 and 12, Fall describes wherein in the separating step, the attribute for the overlap area is set according to an occupancy rate of the overlap area to each of the overlapping image areas, and weighting coefficients of the respective attributes of the overlapping image areas (see figure 8, element 194 and refer for example to column 25, line 38 through column 26, line 28).

With regard to claims 4 and 10, Fall describes a method and computer system (see figure 1) which provides for sectionalizing the document image on the basis of attributes of the image document to form a plurality of image areas each having an attribute (see figures 2d and 4d, and refer for example to column 13, line 50 through column 14, line 53); determining presence of overlapping among the sectionalized image areas (see figure 4d and refer for example to column 15, lines 31-55); extracting overlapping image areas determined in the determining step, and newly setting an attribute for each of extracted image areas (see figures 4e and 4f, and refer for example to column 22, line 17 through column 24, line 54); and compressing each of the image areas of the document image using a compression technique corresponding to the attribute of the area obtained in the sectionalizing step or extracting step (see figure 8 and refer for example to column 24 line 55 through column 25, line 62).

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3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Toda, Johnson and Stolfo ('897) and ('780) all disclose systems similar to applicant's claimed invention.

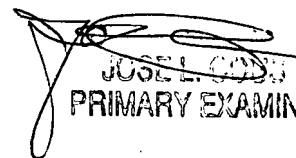
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose L. Couso whose telephone number is (571) 272-7388. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the USPTO contact Center whose telephone number is (703) 308-4357.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jlc
July 2, 2007


JOSE L. COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER